

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	Michael Austin
Application No.:	09/966686
Filed:	October 1, 2001
For:	A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONTRACTING, LOADING OR CRIMPING SELF-EXPANDING AND BALLOON EXPANDABLE STENT DEVICES
Examiner:	Marc Jimenez
Group Art Unit:	3726

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Docket No.: S63.2N-7405-US02

Amendment

This Amendment is in response to the Final Office Action dated August 4, 2003.

Please amend the application as follows:

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

OCT 07 2003

OFFICIAL

OFFICIAL

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

OCT 07 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Michael Austin
Application No.: 09/966,686
Filed: October 1, 2001
For: A Method and Apparatus for Contracting, Loading or Crimping Self-Expanding and Balloon Expandable Stent Devices
Examiner: Marc Jimenez
Group Art Unit: 3726

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Docket No.:

563.2N-7405-US02

FACSIMILE TRANSMITTAL LETTER

TO: Examiner Jimenez

DATE: October 6, 2003

FACSIMILE NO.: 703-872-9303

TIME: 3:45 p.m.

GROUP ART UNIT: 3726

TOTAL NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover letter): 9

Following please find an 8 page Amendment and 1 page Facsimile Transmittal Letter.

If a fee is required, Commissioner of Patents is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 22-0350 for any required fees. To the extent that any petition is required to consider this communication, please treat this as such a petition.

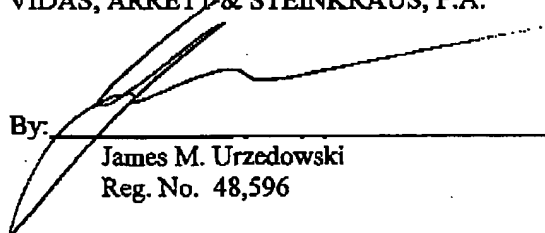
Respectfully Submitted,

VIDAS, ARRETT & STEINKRAUS, P.A.

10/09/2003 NCHAPMAN 00000004 220350 09966686

01 FC:1201 86.00 DA
02 FC:1202 144.00 DA

Date: October 6, 2003

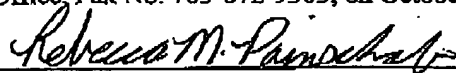
By: 
James M. Urzedowski
Reg. No. 48,596

6109 Blue Circle Drive, Suite 2000
Minnetonka, MN 55343-9185
Telephone: (952) 563-3000
Facsimile: (952) 563-3001

Certificate of Transmission

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Fax No. 703-872-9303, on October 6, 2003.

Signature:


Rebecca M. Painschab